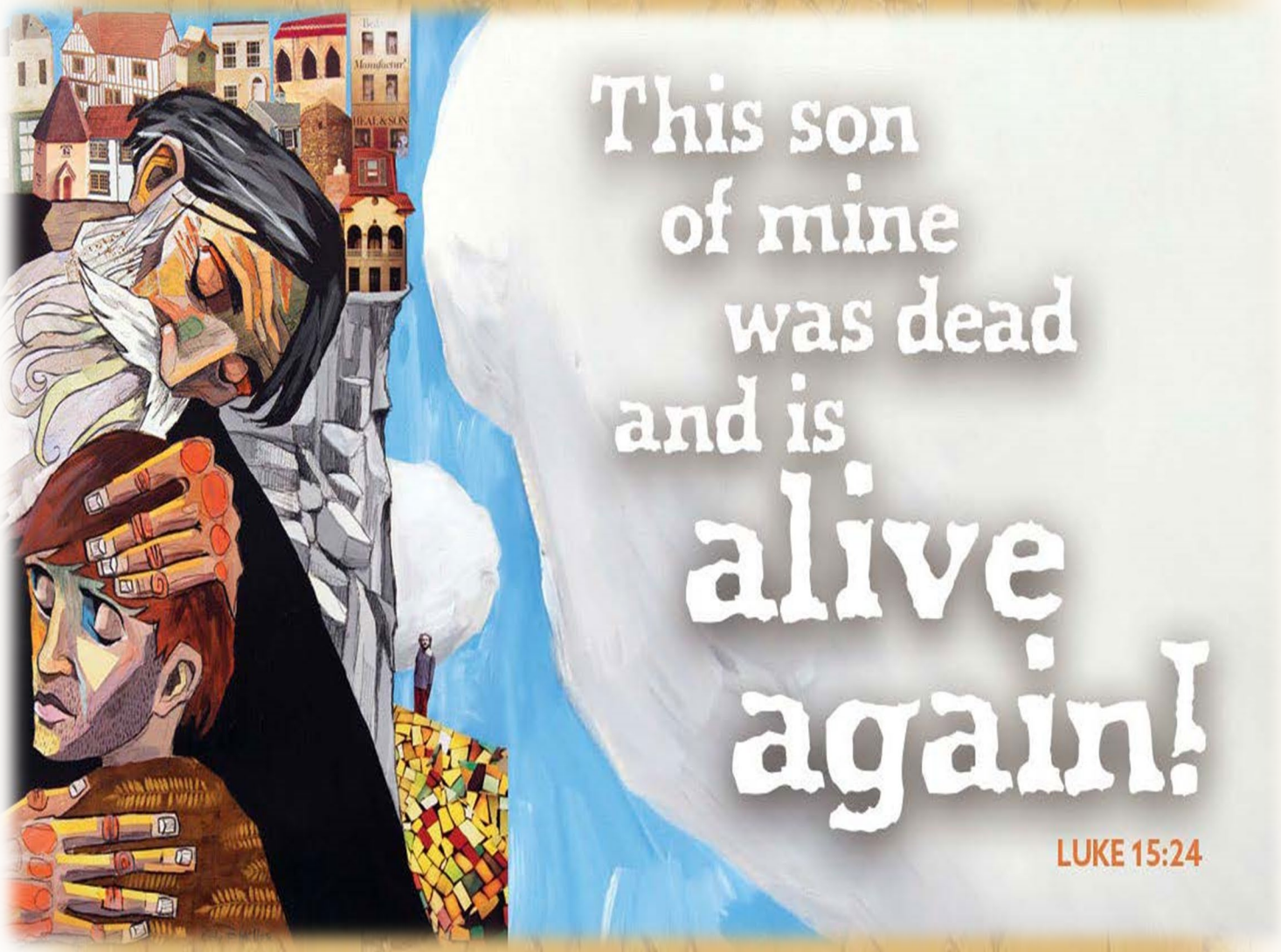


Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti, MI
March 30, 2025 – 4th Sunday in Lent

Worship Key
P: Pastor
A: Assisting Ministers
C: Congregation

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
C: Amen.

P: Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

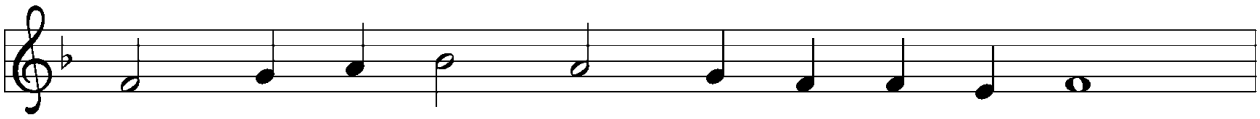
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate One,
C: you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world.
We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us.
We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people.
We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.

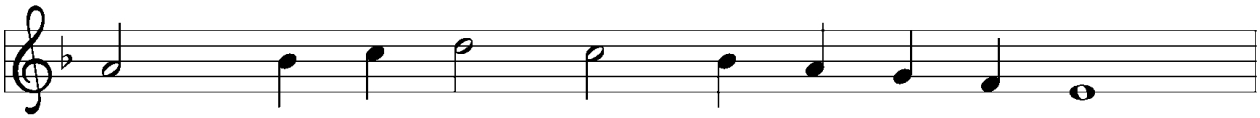
P: Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In ✠ Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.
C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 321

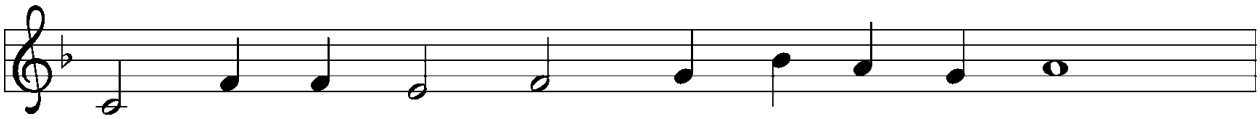
"Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church"



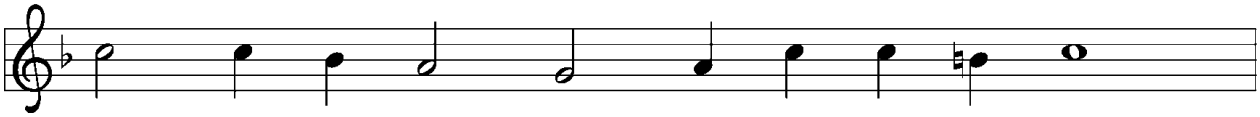
1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



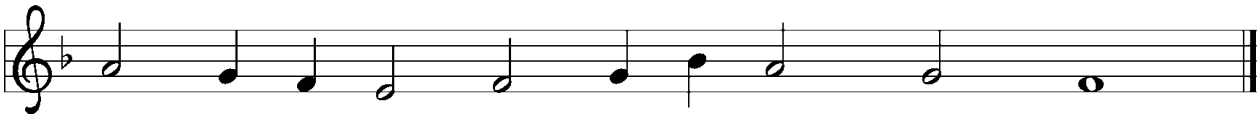
walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

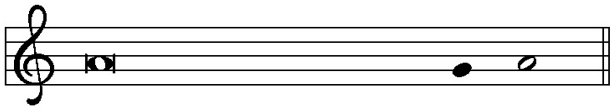
Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003
Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre pseaumes de David,* Geneva, 1551
Text © Thomas H. Cain. Used by permission of estate.

GREETING

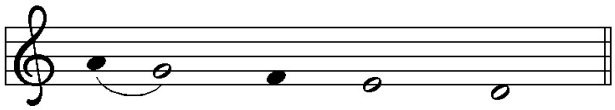
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

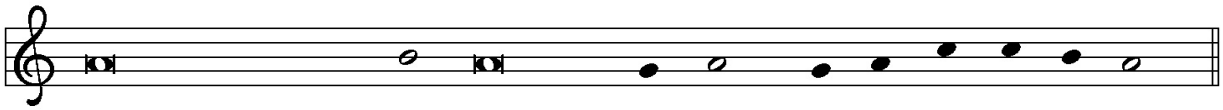
KYRIE



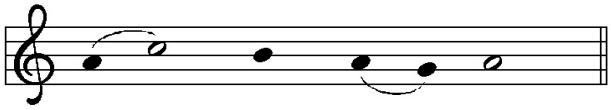
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



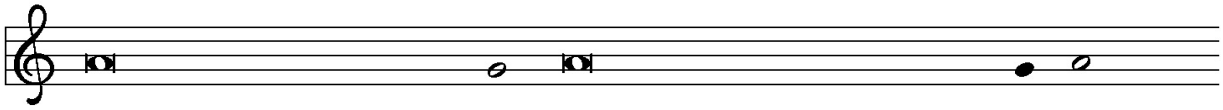
Lord, have mer - cy.



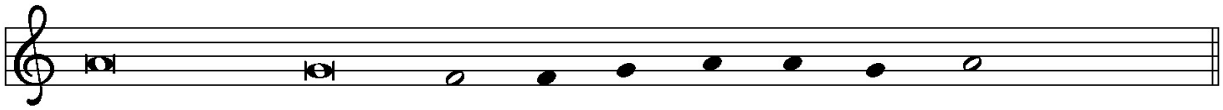
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



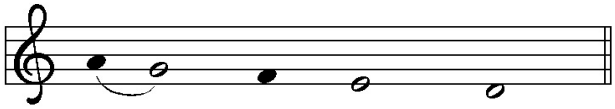
Lord, have mer - cy.



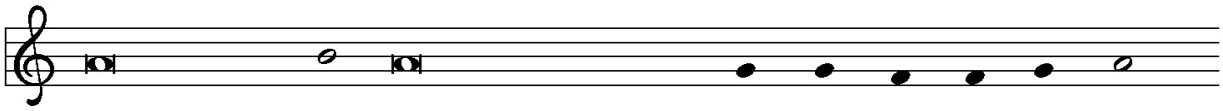
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



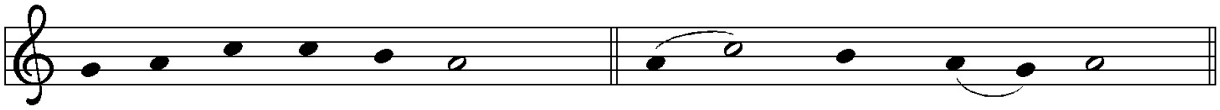
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



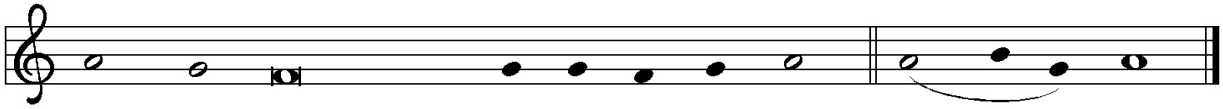
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. **A - men.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

C: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

A: A reading from Joshua.

9 The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of
Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

10 While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the Passover in the
evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. 11 On the day
after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened
cakes and roasted grain. 12 The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of
the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of
Canaan that year.

A: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 32

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD. (Ps. 32:11)

P: [1] Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!
C: [2] Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
P: [3] While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.
C: [4] For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.
P: [5] Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
C: [6] Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
P: [7] You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
C: [8] "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.
P: [9] Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
C: [10] Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.
P: [11] Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

A: A reading from Second Corinthians.

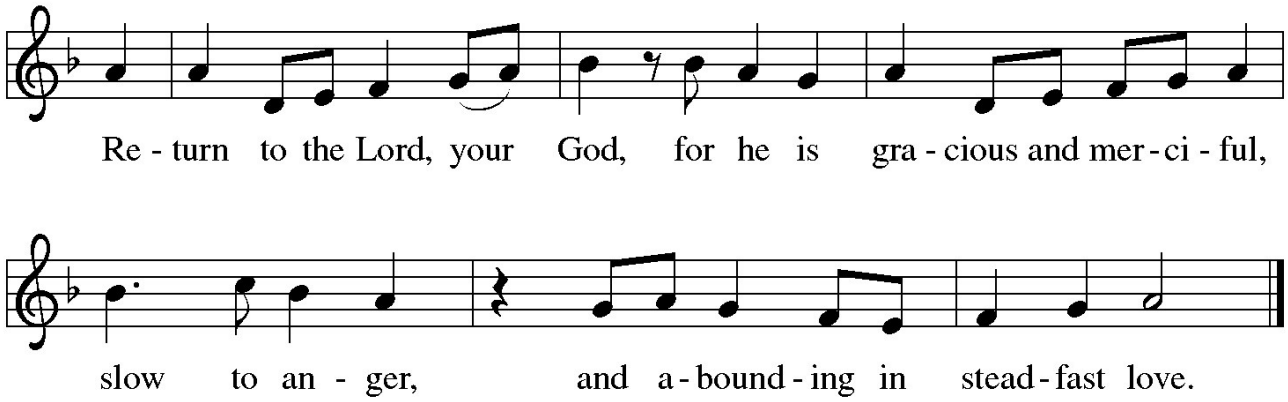
[16] From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we no longer know him in that way. [17] So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has

passed away; look, new things have come into being! [18] All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; [19] that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. [20] So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. [21] For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

A: Word of God. Word of Life.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.



GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

P: The Gospel according to Luke.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[1] Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] [2] And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

[3] So he told them this parable: [11b] "There was a man who had two sons. [12] The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will

belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. [13] A few days later the
younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he
squandered his wealth in dissolute living. [14] When he had spent everything, a
severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need. [15] So
he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that region, who sent him
to his fields to feed the pigs. [16] He would gladly have filled his stomach with the
pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. [17] But when he came
to his senses he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough
and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! [18] I will get up and go to my father,
and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; [19] I am
no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired
hands." ' [20] So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his
father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around
him and kissed him. [21] Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against
heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' [22] But the
father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on
him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. [23] And get the fatted calf and
kill it, and let us eat and celebrate, [24] for this son of mine was dead and is alive
again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

[25] "Now his elder son was in the field, and as he came and approached the
house, he heard music and dancing. [26] He called one of the slaves and asked what
was going on. [27] He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the
fatted calf because he has got him back safe and sound.' [28] Then he became angry
and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. [29] But he
answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for
you, and I have never disobeyed your command, yet you have never given me even
a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. [30] But when this son of
yours came back, who has devoured your assets with prostitutes, you killed the
fatted calf for him!' [31] Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me,
and all that is mine is yours. [32] But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this
brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S TIME — Rev. Joshua Rinas

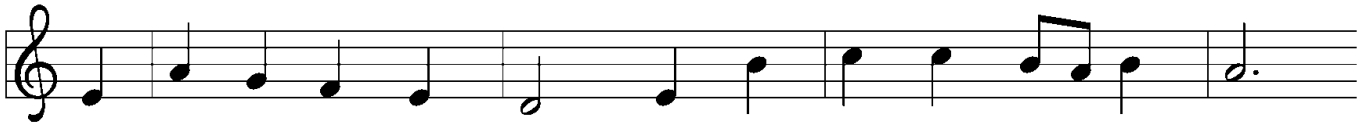
A special message for children.

SERMON — Rev. Joshua Rinas

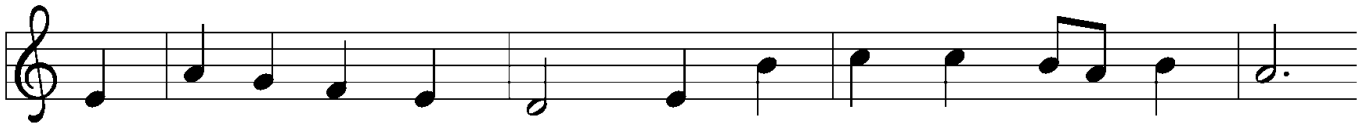
Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY — ELW 606

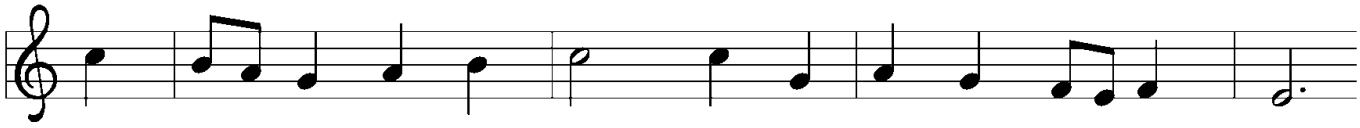
"Our Father, We Have Wandered"



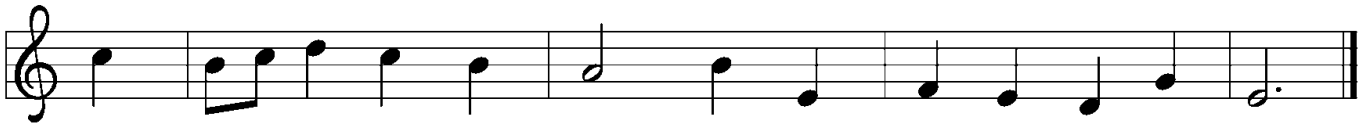
1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006
Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612
Text © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

---

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

A: God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy,
C: receive our prayer.

A: God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion especially John, Mary, Vicki, Corky, Lynn, Ruth, Judy, Steve, Marilynn, Barb, and Linda. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For what else does this congregation pray? Prayers may be said aloud, typed into the live chat box, or silently in your hearts…

Brief Pause for the congregation to respond.

A: God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

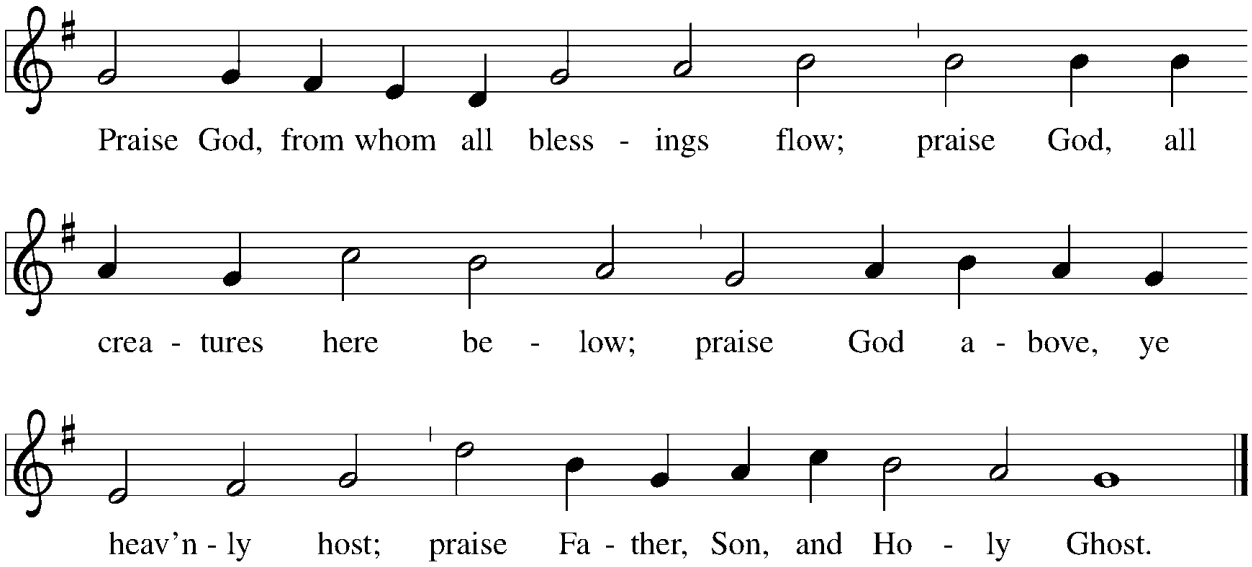
C: And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN – *"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"*



OFFERING PRAYER

A: Gracious Provider,
you set your immense treasures among us,
opening your heart to the world.
As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others,
through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

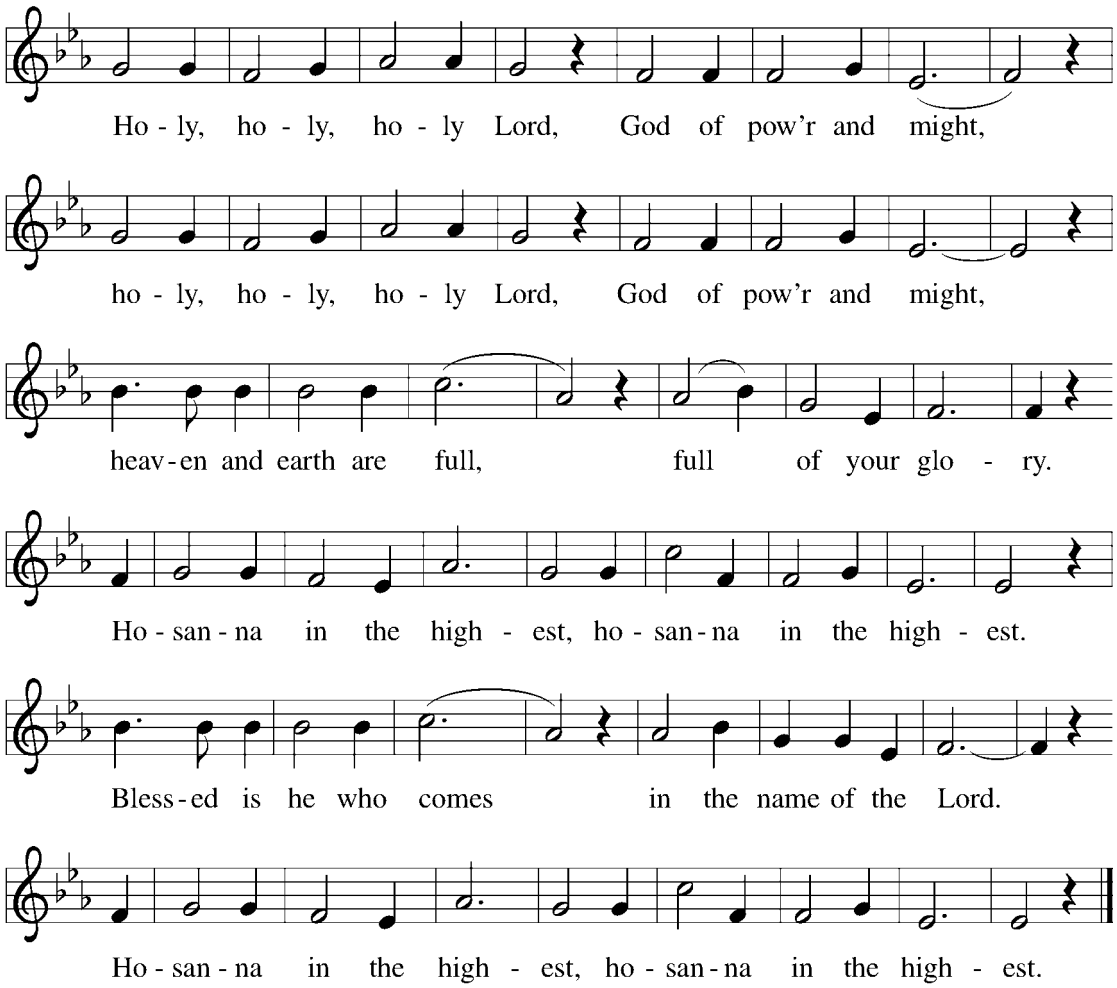
C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.

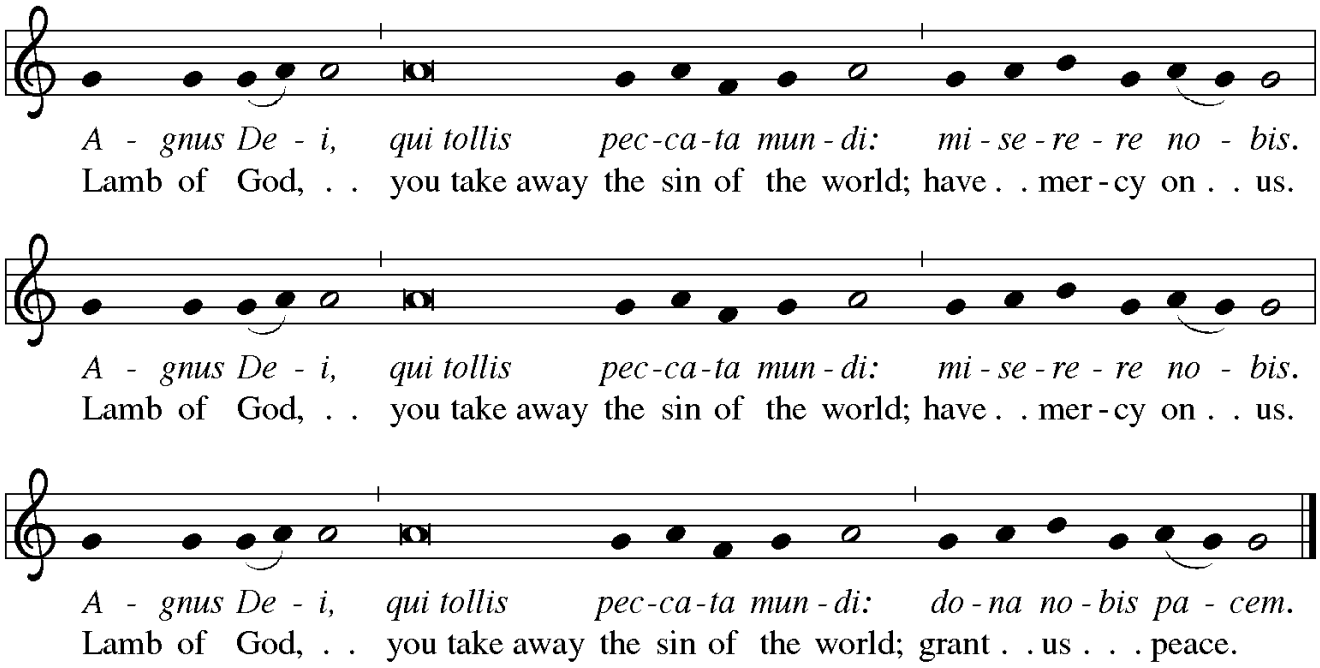
P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

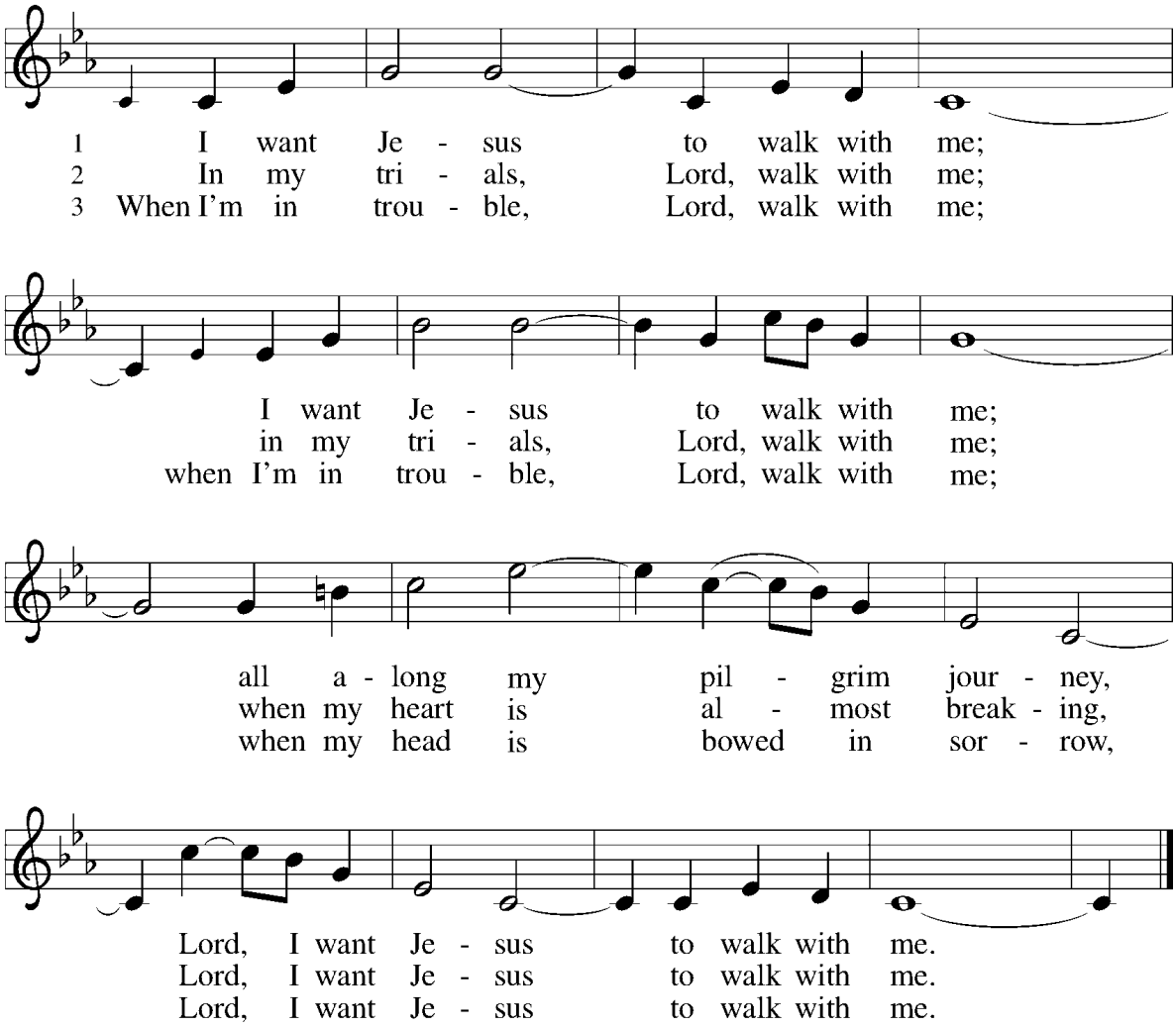
LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN WOV 660

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"



Text: African American spiritual
Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.
C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.
C: Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

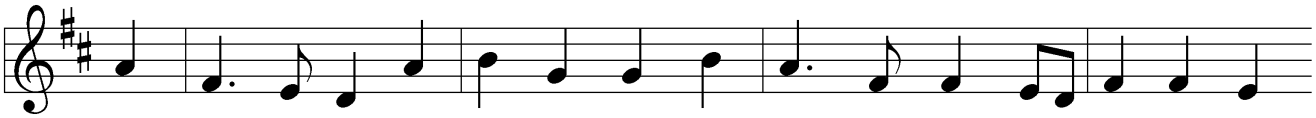
BLESSING

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

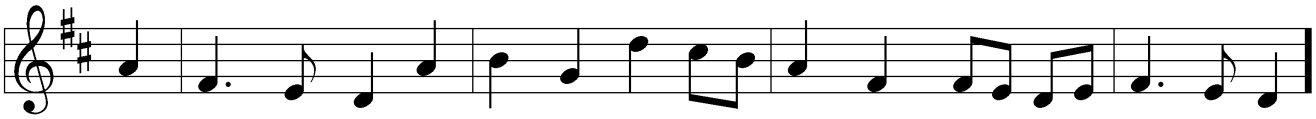
C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN — TFF 151

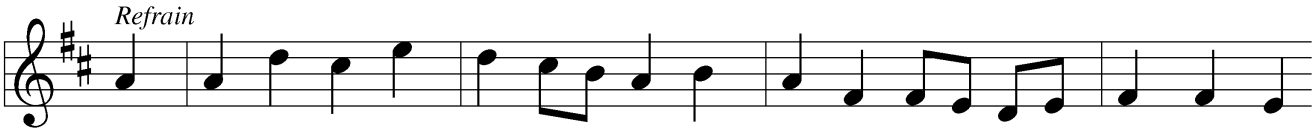
"He Leadeth Me"



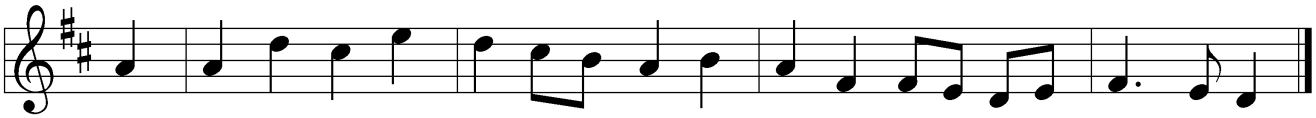
1 He lead - eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic - t'ry's won,



What - e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
con - tent, what - ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me, by his own hand he lead - eth me.



His faith-ful fol - l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834–1918
Music: HE LEADETH ME, William B. Bradbury, 1815–1868

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! If this is your first time with us, please add your name and information to our Guest book located in the Narthex (Lobby), we would love to connect with you.
*Hearing assistance devices and cushions are available in the back pew. Please help yourself!
*Children's bulletins available, please see an usher.
*Printed copies of the Newsletter are in the magazine holder in the Narthex.
**Christ in Our Home* devotionals (April - June) can be found in the Narthex.
*Hand Sanitizers can be found in the Narthex and hanging at the end of the pews.

Please remember to wear your Name Tag
It's a help for visitors and folks you may not have seen for a while. If you need a new Name tag, please let Jennifer know.

Wednesday Lenten Supper and Service
We will have Wednesday dinners **(4/2, 4/9)** followed by Holden Evening Prayer. The dinners will start at 6:00pm and Holden Evening Prayer will start at 7pm.

Lenten Devotionals
There are Lenten devotionals located in the Narthex by the table, please take one!

Do you have Musical talent you'd like to share?
If you have a musical talent and would like to share your talents in our Holy week services, please contact David or Jamie. We'd love to have you be part of our special services!

Holy Week Services
Palm Sunday (4/13) 10:00am service

Maundy Thursday (4/17) this will be a combined service with St. Luke's Episcopal, First Presbyterian, United Methodist, and Emmanuel Lutheran. It will begin with an Agape Meal at 6:00pm at St. Luke's Episcopal with a service to follow at 7:00pm

Good Friday (4/18) 7:00pm service; **Easter Vigil (4/19)** 7:00pm service; **Easter Sunday (4/20)** 10:00am service

---

2025 Altar Flower Sign-up
The 2025 Altar flower sign-up has been put up on the bulletin board outside the office. **Please sign-up for your date and turn in the form and monies in the offering plate or office mailbox.** Thank you!

The Stations of the Cross

You're welcome to journey through the stations of the cross over this Lenten season. Starting in the Narthex and continuing into the Sanctuary on the left side, the fourteen stations travel with Jesus through the passion story. Informational pamphlets are located on the table in the narthex.

Need Landscape Help

It's that time of year, and we need to clean up our church yard, getting ready for the spring and summer. There are some trimming of dead plants, pruning, some leaf raking, etc. We are hoping to have mulch delivered before Easter and need the beds cleaned up before we spread the mulch. The Scouts hope to help us spread the mulch. We can use anyone who loves working in the yard. A few of us meet during the day when the weather is nice, and plan on some Saturday work. Please contact Della or Linda King (dmdiehr@gmail.com) if you might be able to help.

Ways to Give: Giving can be done online by clicking here. Or mail checks to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 201 N. River St., Ypsilanti, MI 48198.

Paypal: Select payment type "Friends and Family" using emmanuelypsi@gmail.com. Please indicate account (general fund, flowers, memorials, etc.) where it says add message.

Mobile App: Download the Vanco Payments Mobile app for free from Google Play. In the app, select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation.

This Week at Emmanuel

Sunday, March 30 – 4th Sunday in Lent

- Handbell Choir 8:45am
- **Worship 10:00am**
- Coffee Hour 11:00am – 12:00pm
- Bethel Service 12:00pm
- Scouts 6:00pm

Tuesday, April 1

- Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 10:30am
- Refresh Committee 11:30am – 1:00pm
- Food Gatherers delivery

Wednesday, April 2

- Clothes Closet 9:00am – 10:30am
- Quilting 11:00am – 1:00pm
- **Bible Study 12:30pm – 2:00pm**
- Food Pantry 3:00pm – 5:00pm
- **Lenten Supper 6:00pm**
- **Holden Evening Prayer 7:00pm**
- AA Meeting 8:00pm – 9:00pm

Thursday, April 3

- Reach for the Stars Exercise Class 9:30am
- YCC 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Friday, April 4

- NA Meeting 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Sunday, April 6 – 5th Sunday in Lent

- Handbell Choir 8:45am
- Chancel Choir 9:30am
- **Worship 10:00am**
- **Birthday Coffee Hour 11:00am – 12:00pm**
- Bethel Service 12:00pm
- Scouts 6:00pm

The flowers on the altar today are given for the Glory of God.

For those with young children: Emmanuel's "Pray-Ground," located at the front of the church, was established as a positive, welcoming experience for children in church. Many churches have begun using this feature, which gives small children a space to squirm, quietly play with soft toys, books, and do arts and crafts. Parents may want to sit nearby to accompany children, but don't worry about noise—worship leaders have microphones! We encourage everyone with little ones to give this a try.

Prayers requested for: John, Mary, Vicki, Corky, Lynn, Ruth, Judy, Steve, Marilynn, Barb, and Linda.

Assisting Ministers Needed!

Sign up on the sheet outside the office or call the office; Or through sign-up genius. Assisting Ministers - Click here or Scan QR code

Links:

Livestream Worship - https://www.youtube.com/@emmanuelypsi
Giving Online - Online donation
Clothes Closet - ClothesCloset@emmanuelypsi.org
Food Pantry - FoodPantry@emmanuelypsi.org

Serving in Worship:

Interim Pastor..... *Rev. Joshua Rinas*
Minister of Worship Music..... *David Meitzler*
Minister of Choral Conducting..... *Jamie Gallupe*
Assisting Minister..... *Monica Doerr*

Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SBL145 and One License #A-714239

You are welcome to connect to our wi-fi network – Emmanuel Guests

Contact us at info@emmanuelypsi.org
Or call us at 734-482-7121

Visit us at www.EmmanuelYpsi.org
Or @emmanuelypsi on Facebook